SIKKIM

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

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HOME DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

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NOTIFICATION

WHEREAS, the pace of all-round development in the State has increased by leaps and bounds. Construction of a number of hydro-electric Power Projects, Road Projects under the National Highway Authority of India and Border Roads Organization, Roads under the Roads and Bridges Department, Government of Sikkim, Rural Management Development Department and infrastructure developments under the Tourism Department, Urban Development and Housing Department etc. are some of the ones that are currently in hand as priority projects.

AND WHEREAS, development projects whether big or small, require diversion of forest lands under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. For speedy clearance for diversion by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, a great deal of exercise is required to be done at the State level in the planning phase itself which calls for a coordinated effort of different Departments and stake-holders;

And WHEREAS, a large number of hydel power and other projects require a careful Environmental Impact Analysis, prepare Catchment Area Treatment Plans and other mitigative measures for Environmental Management of the Project areas;

NOW THEREFORE, with a view to dealing with the matter in a time bound manner and to hasten the process of obtaining Forests and Environmental clearances from Government of India and also for preparation of site specific Catchment Area Treatment and Environmental Management Plans, the State Government is hereby pleased to constitute the following Committees, namely: -

A. State Level Committee

1.	Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Territorial) or Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Environment)	-	Chairman
2.	Chief Conservator of Forest-cum-Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation Act)	-	Member Secretary
3.	Chief Engineer Project Director/Chief Executive Officer of the Project Implementing Agency/Department/ Defence Estates Officer (for Defense Projects)	-	Member
4.	Member Secretary (State Pollution Control Board)	-	Member
5.	Senior Scientist in charge of Govind Ballav Pant Institute	-	Member
6.	Additional Secretary, Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department	-	Member
7.	Additional Secretary, Mines, Mineral and Geology Department	-	Member
8.	Director, Horticulture and Cash Crop	-	Member

	Development Department		
9.	Conservator of Forests (Territorial)		Member
10.	Conservator of Forest (Wildlife)	-	Member
11.	Conservator of Forest (Land Use and Environment)	-	Member
12.	Any other member the Chairman may co-opt		
B.	**District Level Committee**		
1.	Divisional Forest Officers (Territorial)	-	Chairman
2.	Divisional Forest Officers (Wildlife)/Land Use and Environment/Social Forestry. Sr. Scientist, State Pollution Control Board	-	Members
3.	Superintending Engineer or equivalent rank	-	Member
4.	Representative of the Project Implementing Department in charge of the particular projects and (representative of Defence Estate Officer in case of Defense Projects)	-	Member
5.	Additional District Collector	-	Member
6.	Representative of Mines, Minerals and Geology/Geological Survey of India	-	Member
7.	Representative of Govind Ballav Pant Institute	-	Member
8.	Representative of World Wildlife Fund, Sikkim Unit	-	Member
9.	Deputy Director (Horticulture and Cash Crop)	-	Member
10.	Any other members as the Chairman may co-opt	-	Member

The terms of reference of the above Committees shall be as under:

1. The District Level Committee on receipt of any proposal either for diversion of forest lands or for Environmental Impact Analysis (EIA)/Environmental Management Plan (EMP), Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plan etc. will carry out all surveys, investigations and other related field works as may be necessary so to do, after finalizing the activities to be carried out by each individual Department/Agency in a joint coordination meeting to be called and chaired by the District Chairman.

2. The District Committee will submit a complete report with all details as may be necessary within a period not exceeding 90 (ninety) days in case of Environmental Impact Analysis (EIA)/Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plan and 60 (sixty) days in case of projects requiring diversion of forests lands under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

3. The State Level Committee will examine, deliberate upon, scrutinize, review (if necessary) fill in the gaps and lacunae in the proposal/proposals received from the District Level Committee at one or two sittings within a period not exceeding 45 (forty five) days and submit it to the next higher authority/Government as may be necessary.

4. The costs involved in all the above activities will be borne by the project authority for which the fund so provided shall be deposited in the Forest Development Agency (FDA) Account already in operation under Forest, Environment and Wildlife Management Department.

BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR.

N. D. CHINGAPA, IAS
CHIEF SECRETARY
F. NO. 14 (12) FEWD)